

REMARKS

This application has been amended in a manner to place it in condition for allowance.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the indication of the allowable subject matter from claims 11-19.

Status of the Claims

Claim 1 is amended to include the allowable subject matter from claim 4. Accordingly, claim 4 is cancelled.

Claims 5-10 are amended as to form and to depend from claim 1. Claims 2, 3 and 11-18 are amended as to form.

Claim 20 is cancelled without prejudice.

Claims 1-3 and 5-19 remain in this application.

Drawings

The drawings were objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a) for not showing every feature specified in the claims.

The position of the Official Action was that the "penetrators" from claim 20 were not shown in the drawings. This objection is moot in light of the cancellation of claim 20.

Claim Rejections-35 USC §112

Claim 20 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, for being indefinite. This rejection is moot in view of the cancellation of the claim.

Claim Rejections-35 USC §103

Claims 1-3 and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over STINESSEN US 5,398,762 ("STINESSEN") in view of GROB et al. US 6,464,469 ("GROB"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The presently pending claims are now directed to the allowable subject matter of claims 4-19 as previously indicated, i.e., independent claim 1 includes the features of claim 4.

Therefore, claims 1-3 are not rendered obvious by the proposed combination, and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

In view of the amendment to the claims and the foregoing remarks, this application is in condition for allowance at the time of the next Official Action. Allowance and passage to issue on that basis is respectfully requested.

Should there be any matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future submissions, to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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